GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4640
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
FINANCIAL INCLUSION PLAN QUESTION
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Financial Inclusion Plan formulated by the Government;

(b) whether the Government has undertaken any review of the said plan in rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial inclusion targets and their achievements as on date; and

(d) the details of role of private sector in the said plan, if any?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Namo Narain Meena)

(a) to (c): In order to extend the reach of banking to the rural hinterland, Banks were advised to provide appropriate banking facilities to habitations having a population in excess of 2000 (as per 2001 census) by March, 2012 using the Business Correspondent and other models, with appropriate technology back up. This Campaign was named `Swabhimaan`. The Banks formulated their road maps for Financial Inclusion through the mechanism of the State Level Bankers Committee and identified approximately 74,000 habitations across the country having a population of over 2,000 for providing banking facilities. These habitations were allocated to Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Private Sector Banks and Cooperative Banks for extending banking services by March, 2012.

As per reports received from State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Convener Banks, 74,194 villages with population above 2,000 have been covered by March 31, 2012 and approximately 3.16 crores accoums opened under Financial Inclusion Plan tilt March, 2012.

In the Budget Speech of 2012-13, it has been proposed to extend the Swabhimaan campaign to habitation with population of more than 1,000 in North Eastern and hilly states and to other habitations which have crossed population of 2,000 as per census 2011.

(d): SLBC while allocating the habitations for extension of banking services also allocates such habitations to private banks.